MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

VIA: [redacted] DDP

SUBJECT: Chief, [redacted] interview with Mr. [redacted] on the subject of Hypnosis

REFERENCE: Memorandum 22 November 1961, Chief, [redacted] to Mr. McCone, reporting on subject interview

1. Paragraph 9 of this memorandum contains a recommendation for the approval of the DDCI.

2. Following are [redacted] Staff comments and recommendations on subject and reference which is attached hereto.

3. Both the Office of Security and the Technical Services Division have had a sustained interest in the subject of hypnosis and have subsidized research in it. Both offices and the [redacted] Staff have been alert to developments which might be of operational use, but, so far, nothing demonstrably useful in operational situations has been found. In June 1960 the [redacted] Staff, in cooperation with the Offices of Security and TSD, initiated a program to attempt testing of hypnosis in operational situations. The emphasis for this purpose has been on relatively little used rapid induction techniques. We believe this type of hypnosis, rather than the classic type which most practitioners have in mind, probably offers the greatest possibilities for operations, and we are on the alert for opportunities for field testing.

4. To date only one operational test has been conducted; it was inconclusive. Difficulties in operational testing revolve around three points: (1) the problem of finding operators for training who have the necessary operational talents, language ability, and motivation; (2) the extreme difficulty of finding experimental subjects and situations which do not have a dangerous potential for Agency

151
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embarrassment; and (3) of course, the present impossibility of predicting results.

5. [redacted] I/C

6. [redacted] I/C

7. [redacted] I/C

8. With regard to paragraph 1 of the [redacted] memorandum, F/I [redacted] was used by us in our operations against [redacted], and we F/I are in a position to recontact him, should it become necessary. F/I [redacted], incidentally, is not dependent on [redacted] help, but is I gainfully employed.

[redacted]

[redacted]

9. It is recommended that Mr. [redacted] (C) be told the following:

> Although CIA does monitor developments in the field of hypnosis for both defensive and offensive reasons, we feel that basic research in this field should remain in the hands of private institutions and overt elements of the Government.
>
> His interest and offer are appreciated, and the possibility of utilizing his assistance will be explored.
>
> We are au courant on the operational possibilities (F/I) of most [redacted], but we appreciate his interest.

It would be unwise to advise Mr. [redacted] (C) of the sensitivity of the subject and it is recommended that the Agency reply not be in writing.

10. The gist of the above recommendation was conveyed by telephone to Mr. [redacted] (A) by Mr. [redacted] (A) of this Staff on 22 November.

Attachments: Reference

Chief, [redacted] (A) (G)

CONCUR:

[redacted] (G) DDP (date)

The recommendation contained in paragraph 9 above is approved.

/s/ C. P. Cabell

Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

(date)

[redacted]

[redacted]

prepared by: G/A

[redacted] 22 dec 61 [redacted] H

DISTRIBUTION:

C&I - Addressee

2 - [redacted] G

2 - DDP

1 - [redacted] G

1 - [redacted] G

1 - [redacted] A

1 - [redacted] G

[redacted]

COPY

Following is a copy of the transmittal note from Mr. [redacted] to Mr. [redacted] which accompanied the latter's memo to the DDCI subject, [redacted] interview with Mr. [redacted] on the subject of Hypnosis:

[redacted] D/DCI has approved the attached recommendation and wishes you to proceed promptly to make contact with Mr. [redacted] on behalf of the DCI. Whoever makes the contact with Mr. [redacted] should have in his possession the letter from [redacted] to Mr. McCone / note: attached to Mr. [redacted] memo when it was retd by Mr. [redacted] and should thank him for the letter and the basket of fruit on behalf of Mr. McCone.

D/DCI also wants to have either [redacted] or [redacted] see Mr. [redacted] and advise him of how we have handled this matter with Mr. [redacted]. D/DCI feels it would be advisable (over) to tell Mr. [redacted] that we keep fully abreast of developments in the field of hypnosis and believe we have more fully experienced and better qualified connections in this particular field than Mr. [redacted]

[redacted]
3 January 196[redacted]

[redacted]